THE EXAMINER.

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THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. SWIFT.

No. 114.

STATE OF PARTIES—EDINBURGH REVIEW.

In attempting to combat some of the opinions advanced by this work, it may not be altogether impertinent in me to give my own opinion of it's general merits: not that I would affect to describe so well-known a publication, but that I may shew the well-disposed temper with which I would meet so argumentative and powerful an antagonist. If I do not exhibit this diffidence in general when writing upon men and measures, it is because the subjects are not at all calculated to raise one's respect either for intention or talent. Before such personages as Mr. YORKE and my Lord LIVERPOOL there can be no difference of demeanour between respect and irony; and in censuring the opinions of Mr. PERCEVAL, the only apology requisite is for thinking it necessary to refute them. But the *Edinburgh Review* is universally and deservedly known as displaying much sound and various ability; and in every respect it deserves our earnest attention, since from the very nature of that enlarged discussion which has been sillily objected as a fault to it's *reviewing* character, it will maintain the notice, and influence the retrospective judgment, of our posterity. What is to be particularly admired in it's general character, is the spirit of *philosophy*, with which it looks abroad upon men and things, and which leads it to investigate, with a ready seizure of opportunity, the modes and changes of society, the progress of physical and moral science, and that most important though least imposing part of knowledge, the ethics of familiar life. In a word, it takes every occasion to refresh the spirit of inquiry and to record it's atchievements; and in so doing, there can be no doubt, that it's labours materially tend to the solid improvement of British readers. If there is any deficiency in the sphere of it's inquiries, it is, I think, in the *Finance* department of Politics; in the notice of the Fine Arts, towards which the public patronage has at length been *forced* by the merits of the British School; and perhaps in the higher walk of Belles-lettres criticism, as it regards the Drama, the union of style and genius, and the true requisites of Poetry. The Scotish School of Philosophy, it is true, consistently with it's cold metaphysical character, has never been famous for it's inquiries into the warmer regions of wit and verse; but there is a vein of nervous pleasantry, and a marked dislike of common-place and eccentricity, pervading the *Edinburgh Review*, that would lead us to expect, at least, a greater nicety in being pleased with *some* writers, and a more ardent spirit of opposition to the poetical vagaries of others. But the Reviewers betray some little inconsistency in this respect. No man of taste or reflection will quarrel with their admiration of Mr. CAMPBELL's fancy or Mr. DUGALD STEWART's philosophy, and certainly not with their contempt of that maudlin gossip, the Wordsworthian muse; but the more they prove themselves capable of appreciating good and original writers, the more they surprise their readers, when they pass fine critical opinions on *ill-written party works*, as their greatest admirers think they have done in behalf of some authors of political rank; and I am afraid, that from the inordinate praises they have bestowed on the muse of Mr. WALTER SCOTT,

Trick'd in antique ruff and bonnet,

they will be reckoned a party to all the new editions of old writings, whether in prose or *poetry*, with which we are threatened by that calculating Gentleman.—But it is upon the strength of their Politics that they obtain such a powerful interest over the country at this moment, and though upon this subject they lean decidedly towards a small set of men, yet their writings breathe in general so philosophical and always so animated a spirit, that they are sure to please great numbers whom they cannot persuade, and at any rate they are sure to give us one great end of speculative writing, and set us thinking for ourselves. In the foreign department of politics, no man who has been the least observer can fail to appreciate the temper and knowledge they display. They can speak of the talents of BONAPARTE, on the one hand, without betraying an unmanly irritability, and they can admire them on the other without confounding them with his virtues; they see at once, as well as every body else who has not adopted guineas for spectacles, the folly and futility of our continental system, the wretched results of state-corruption,—in a word, the absolute insanity of all warlike endeavour, which is not founded upon a generous, uncorrupt, and intellectual policy. This is a favourable specimen, it must be allowed, of what the Whigs *might* do for us when possessed of power; but unluckily, the country has had a practical specimen of what the Whigs *would* do; and it is upon this experience, that the readers of the *Edinburgh Review* differ with it's advice concerning those Gentlemen. What the numerous connections or *identity* may be, which the Whig Reviewers have with the Whig Statesmen, or whether these articles are *made up*, as is said, at Holland House, it is not my business to enquire. The Whig Statesmen are best calculated to explain, or, at any rate, to betray their feelings when they write; and Holland House is a classical spot, in which, I have no doubt, as good logic and writing may be produced as at any house in Edinburgh. If there really was a *sitting* upon the article in question, we may suppose it to have

been at a time of night when men as well as "churchyards yawn," and sleepiness and horror unite to make the best of visionaries look round them and *fancy they see something*.

"The dangers, and the corruptions, and the prodigies of the times," says the article in question, "have very nearly put an end to all neutrality and moderation in politics; and the great body of the nation appears to us to be divided into two violent and most pernicious *factions*: —the courtiers, who are almost for arbitrary power,— and the *democrats*, who are *almost for revolution and republicanism*. Between these stand a small, but respectable band—the friends of liberty and of order—the *old constitutional Whigs* of England,—with the best talents and the best intentions, but without power or popularity, *calumniated* and suspected by both parties, and looking on both with too visible a resentment, aversion and alarm. The two great divisions, in the mean time, are daily provoking each other to greater excesses, and recruiting their hostile ranks, as they advance, from the diminishing mass of the calm and the neutral. Every hour the rising tides are eating away the narrow isthmus upon which the adherents of the constitution are stationed; and every hour it becomes more necessary for them to oppose some barrier to their encroachment.

"If the two opposite parties are once permitted to shock together in open conflict, there is an end to the freedom, and almost to the existence of the nation,— whatever be the result,—although that is not doubtful: and the only human means of preventing a consummation to which all things seem so obviously tending, is for the remaining friends of the constitution to unbend from their cold and repulsive neutrality, and to join themselves to the more respectable members of the party to which they have the greatest affinity; and thus, by the weight of their character, and the force of their talents, to temper it's violence and moderate it's excesses, till it can be guided in safety to the defence, and not to the destruction of our liberties. In the present crisis, we have no hesition in saying, that it is to the popular side that the friends of the constitution must turn themselves; and that, if the Whig leaders do not first conciliate, and then restrain the people,—if they do not save them from the leaders they are already choosing in their own body, and become themselves their leaders, by becoming their patrons, and their cordial, though authoritative, advisers,—they will in no long time sweep away the *Constitution itself*, the *Monarchy of England*, and the *Whig aristocracy*, by which that Monarchy is controuled and confirmed, and exalted above all other forms of polity."

This is a very bad climax; but let that pass. It was natural, that men writing in such agitation about revolution and republicanism, with all the attendant horrors flitting about their heads, should talk with little nicety or arrangement; and neither of these qualities will be found in any part of the article. It is equally as natural however in the reader to expect that some good documents, some data, some facts, should be produced to shew the existence of this anti-constitutional feeling which is now pervading *one-half* of "the great body of the nation." But no: the Reviewers simply make one assertion respecting the truth of the case and another respecting it's remedy; and "this," they add, "is the sum of our doctrine." They should have added, that it is the sum of all their elucidations and proofs of what they have advanced. They profess indeed to be "aware, that, to most readers, it will require more development than they can *now* afford, and be exposed to more objections than they have left themselves *room* to answer." What the developments are they could not afford at the time of writing the article, and why they took *nineteen* of their closely printed pages to *repeat assertions*, and thus left themselves no room to answer objections, it is vain to inquire. This, however, is not the style of men who are in possession of proofs. The Reviewers do what they can to shock the feelings of their countrymen, and to make every body look with a suspicious eye upon his neighbour, but have not time to tell us why. They send abroad their circular letters announcing all sorts of horrors to those who read them, but have no room to prove their words, because it has taken *nineteen* pages merely to give the news, and because the previous sheets are occupied with the facetious adventures of travelling pedants and mad poets. All this may give us hopes that the news is *not* true, but by no means proves that it is.

It becomes me however, though I can find no proof of these assertions any way satisfactory to the readers, to state what appear to have been quite sufficient proofs for the writers. The whole of the pretended truths advanced by the Reviewers, may be comprised under three very short heads: they say,—

1stly, That half the great body of the nation consists of courtiers, who are almost for arbitrary power.

2dly, That half the great body of the nation cherishes a spirit of revolution and republicanism; and

3dly, That the Whigs, or as they otherwise call them, the Whig Aristocracy and the Whig *Royalists*, are the only persons calculated to mollify and reclaim this spirit.

I. Now, in the first place, it is very true, as the Reviewers observe, that there always have been, and always will be, persons in this country, who hold very opposite theories of government, and may wish to see them put in practice; and the courtiers, who may be truly charged with an attachment to arbitrary power, are such men as Mr. Wharton, who calls upon God to forbid that he should assist any people against any government, and whose pamphlet upon the *Jacobinical* Tendency of the *Edinburgh Review*, seems to have been written to try how far himself and his compeers could carry their insolent opposition to common sense. That there are many such men in the upper ranks, may well be believed from what the country sees; and that from some secret influence they form a powerful

body, is too well known from what the country feels; but that half the great body of the nation consists of courtiers who are almost for arbitrary power, it seems to me quite impossible to prove; nay, from what can be gathered from the unexampled patience or the unexampled thoughtlessness with which the people tolerate their grievances, and are disposed to take up with any servile remedy, half, and more than half of the nation, consists, I believe, of persons wrapt up in present apathy with regard to any real political opinion, very willing perhaps to act the courtier, to neglect "the signs of the times," and to get good places for their sons and brothers, but feeling no absolute inclination whatever for arbitrary power, and little disposed to approve of it in theory, were such a government proposed to them. The Reviewers, in making their political divisions, set out with a false estimate, and forgot all that body of men, who till they are driven some way or other by the tempests of a revolution, and perhaps even then, are of no side whatever. Yet in all countries, where it is possible for selfish or silly people to *go on* in the world without troubling their heads about the general good, such a body will be very numerous; and in spite of the inquiring character of this country, every parish of which has it's political parties, and every alehouse it's debating club, this body appears to me to be more numerous at present than any other. The Reviewers bring the existence of the present Ministry as a proof of what they advance about the numbers who wish for arbitrary power; but if this existence is a proof of any thing, it is a most decided one, I think, not of the great numbers of any peculiar set of politicians, but of the great numbers who have no politics at all;—of the great numbers who live as well as they can, and think as little as they can; who compose, in short, the great *inert mass* which alike obeys the Ins and forgets the Outs, and sees the finance, the glory, and the prosperity of the country going to ruin, with the eyes of a statue. This body, generally speaking, consists of the lowest order of peasantry,—the host of mere fashionable, light-reading, dressing folks,—the inferior clergy—the inferior mercantile class—and the idle and luxurious rich, who with the same florid vegetation are transplanted from town to country and from country to town, as the weather or the mode pleases. Such minds, it is true, are liable to be moulded to the will of arbitrary power; such indifference of opinion and inattention to danger may and, no doubt, do serve the purpose of the unconstitutional part of the aristocracy; and though there is no proof whatever to warrant the first division of the Reviewers in it's arbitrary sense, yet the allotment of half the great body of the nation to *courtiers*, may be more than allowed them, as far as it concerns the resistance of any popular change in the state of things.—(I regret much that the nature of a Weekly Paper does not allow me room to comment on the remaining and most important positions of the Edinburgh Reviewers till next week, when this article will be concluded.)

ET

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, MARCH 4.—The greatest preparations are making at the Thuilleries for the marriage of the Emperor: 4000 ladies, and an equal number of gentlemen, are to line the suite of apartments through which the procession is to proceed. The Archduchess Maria-Louisa goes first to the castle of Compeigne, afterwards to St. Cloud, from whence she is to make her grand entry into Paris by the wood of Boulogne and the Elysian Fields. She is to pass under a triumphal arch, where the keys of the city will be presented to her. The King of Naples, the Grand Duchess of Tuscany, the Viceroy and Queen of Italy, and almost all the Imperial family will be present on the occasion.

MARCH 5.—Yesterday the Emperor received, in the most splendid manner, on his throne, the Senate, which came in a body to congratulate his Majesty on his marriage, and to thank him for the communication thereof to the Senate. The Emperor, in answer to the Address of the President, said, 'I am duly impressed with the sentiments you have delivered. The Empress Maria-Louisa will be a tender mother to the French, and will thereby make me happy. I am happy in having been called by Providence to reign over this affectionate and sensible people, whom I have in all the circumstances of my life found so faithful and so well disposed towards me.'

The religious ceremony of the marriage will take place at the Louvre, in the saloon of the exhibition of pictures, where a chapel will be erected; and the civil ceremony will take place in the evening at St. Cloud. The next day their Majesties will make a grand entry into Paris.—A message from his Majesty to the Senate yesterday announced that he had granted to Prince Eugene Napoleon, and his male issue, the Grand Duchy of Frankfort, after the death of the Prince Primate, the present possessor, and had revoked the nomination made by the Prince Primate of Cardinal Fesch as his successor.

MARCH 8.—The Minister at War has received a Report from Marshal Duke of Castiglione (Augereau), dated Gerona, Feb. 23, from which it appears that on the 20th a battle was fought on the plains of Vech, where our troops, under General Souham, were attacked by the Catalonian army under its newly appointed Chief, General O'Donnell. The Insurgents attacked with great fury, but were repulsed at all points. General Souham was badly, not mortally, wounded in the head. The enemy having lost 3600 in killed and wounded, fled with the utmost precipitation to the walls of Tarragona. O'Donnell's intention was to destroy the division of Souham, and intercept the communication with France. Our loss amounts to 153 killed and 227 wounded, among whom are several officers.

GERMANY.

MUNICH, FEB. 24.—The Queen of Bavaria will proceed to Braunau to receive the August Spouse of the Emperor Napoleon, and accompany her from thence to Munich. The King will accompany her to Paris, as will also the King of Wirtemberg.

VIENNA, FEB. 22.—A corps of cavalry has received orders to proceed to the frontiers, to escort the Prince of Neufchatel to this city. His Highness is expected here on the 1st of March. He will make his formal entry into

this capital on the 2d, and alight at the Imperial Palace, where he will occupy the apartments formerly appropriated to the use of the Chancery. On the 3d he will make a formal demand of the hand of her Imperial Highness the Princess Maria Louisa. The marriage contract will be signed on the 4th, and on the 5th the marriage will be celebrated in the Augustine Church, with all the pomp and ceremony that accompanied the last marriage of the Emperor Francis. For several days after, splendid entertainments will be given. On the 8th of March the Empress of the French will set out for France. It is said that her Majesty will be accompanied by the Archduke Charles and the Duke of Saxe Teschen as far as Braunau, where she will find part of her household.

INDIA.

The General Orders issued by Lord Minto, in consequence of the submission of the revolted Officers, after stating his opinion of their guilt, proceeds to make a selection of them for trial. That selection is to consist of the Officers in command of Stations or bodies of troops, Commandants of Corps, and persons peculiarly distinguished for a forward and violent part in the most criminal acts or proceedings of the Army. And in order that no anxious uncertainty may remain, the names of all the Officers intended for punishments are expressed in the following list:

Officers to be tried by a Court-Martial.

Lieut.-Col. John Bell, 1st battalion of artillery, senior Officer, commanding Seringapatam.

Lieut.-Col. John Doveton, 8th regiment of cavalry, commanding a detachment of the Hyderabad subsidiary forces at Jaulna.

Major Joseph Storey, 1st bat. 19th reg. nat. inf. senior Officer, commanding Masulipatam.

To be tried by a Court-Martial, or dismissed the service, at their option:—

Lieut.-Col. Robert Munro, 2d bat. 15th reg. Seringapatam.
Major David C. Kenny, 2d bat. 19th reg. ditto.
Cap. T. F. De Haviland, engineers, ditto.
Capt. Geo. Cadell, 12th bat. nat. inf. and town major, ditto.
Capt. Hugh M'Intosh, 1st. bat. 8th reg. marched without orders from Chittledroog to Seringaptam.
Capt. F. K. Aiskill, 1st bat. 15th reg. marched without orders from Chittledroog to Seringapatam.
Capt. A. Andrews, Madras European reg Masulipatam.
Capt. James Patterson, 1st bat. 12th reg. Samuleottan.
Capt. George Wahab, 1st. bat. 21st reg. Chicacole.
Capt. James Sadler, 1st bat. 24th reg. Ellore.
Capt. J. L. Lushington, 4th reg. of cavalry, Jaulna.
Capt. A. M'Leod, 8th reg. of cavalry, ditto.
Capt. Lieut. C. Hopkinson, 1st artillery, senior Officer of artillery at Jaulna.
Capt. Lieut. G. W. Poignand, horse artillery, senior Officer of the corps at Jaulna.
Capt. C. M. Gibson, 1st bat. 10th reg. Jaulna.
Capt. T. Pollack, 1st bat. 12th reg. ditto.
Major M. Stewart, 2d bat. 17th reg. ditto.
Capt. J. Turner, 2d bat. 15th reg. Seringapatam.

To every other officer, who had been involved in any of the criminal proceedings of the army, since the 1st of May, a general and unqualified amnesty is granted; to the benefit of which, those officers, who have hitherto declined the test, will be admitted on their signing that declaration.—"This Amnesty (says Lord Minto) is not granted in the narrow spirit of mere pardon. It is tendered as an act of total and sincere oblivion; it offers on the part of Government a full restoration of confidence and esteem; and it invites from those who are the objects of it, not a sullen discharge of constrained duty, but obedience which comes from the heart, and the cheerful, animated service of cordiality, affection, and zeal."

Madras Papers to the 23d of October have been received. The forces of Dowlut Rao Scindia were in motion against the principality of Ajmere. Much plundering had taken place; and the fort of Gurrechind was shortly expected to surrender. There was no late accounts from Holkar, but Meer Khan was at Bopaltal.

The following account of a desperate action is extracted from the Supplement to the *Madras Courier* of the 18th of October:—

The following particulars respecting the capture of the ship La Minerva, Capt. J. Hopewood, which fell into the hands of the Junsemies, on her voyage from Muscat to Bashire, are taken from the relation of some of the crew of that vessel that made their escape:—The Minerva sailed from Muscat on the 12th of May, and on the 29th, early in the morning, she discovered at a distance about 55 dows of Junsemies, all full of armed men, and apparently steering towards her. Captain Hopewood endeavoured to avoid them, but the day being calm, all his exertions were in vain; on which he prepared for defence. When the Junsemies saw the Minerva changing her course, they set all sail, and with the assistance of their oars gained very fast upon her, and as they approached fired some guns at her. At ten *a. m.* the action commenced, and continued for two days and a night, during which time the Minerva destroyed 17 dows; 16 of which were sunk, and one burnt. At length the enemy gradually closed their dows around the Minerva, and, as soon as they got alongside of her, the Junsemies all at once boarded her. Captain Hopewood bravely defended himself to the last; he received a pistol-shot wound in his side, and other wounds on his belly with a sword, and on his feet by a spear; notwithstanding which he continued to fight with the utmost resolution, and did not drop till he had killed four of the pirates with his own hands. After his death the Junsemies began to put to death every body who had borne arms; and when they completed their bloody work on deck, they discovered Mr. Bijaun David, the purser, and Mr. John Martyn, the supercargo, on the main-top; on which they went up, and after cutting them into pieces, threw the mangled fragments down upon the decks: after which they descended, and gave glory to God for their triumph. The second officer, Mr. Hate, having lost some of his fingers by a shot, and seeing no hopes of relief, put an end to himself with a pistol; the ship's company behaved very bravely, and were gallantly assisted by an American Gentleman, Mr. Bijaun David the purser, and Mr. John Martyn the supercargo. The ladies and women who were on board actively employed themselves in sowing and filling the bags of gunpowder. Several of the crew, amongst whom was the first officer, saved themselves by promising to become Musselmen. The women were spared by the Junsemies, who promised to release them safely. The ship was carried to Russulkharma.

List of killed on board La Minerva—Capt. Hopewood, killed; 2d officer wounded slightly, afterwards shot himself; Mr. Bijaun David the purser, Mr. John Martyn, the supercargo, and Mr. Chatoo Arathoon passenger, were massacred, besides about 40 Lascars.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ELECTION.

CAMBRIDGE.—A numerous Meeting of the Freeholders took place on Tuesday, to nominate a Representative of the County in Parliament,

Mr. KEENE proposed Mr. Yorke. They had, he said, often returned him as their Representative to Parliament, and he had

always proved himself a faithful servant. He had been always most attentive to every thing which concerned the local interests of the County. His talents were well-known to them, and he conceived his independence was not at all affected by the circumstance which had vacated his seat.

Mr. PEMBERTON seconded the nomination.—Notwithstanding all the clamour which had been excited, he conceived that Mr. Yorke was as well qualified as any man to represent this free and independent County.

Mr. YORKE then came forward amidst so great a clamour that he could scarcely obtain a hearing. He thought it was not too much to ask for a few minutes of their patient attention.—It was the first time in his experience that a man who was put upon his defence had not a fair hearing from an English audience.—(*A considerable noise prevented him from being distinctly heard.*)—If he could not obtain some attention, it was needless for him to persevere. He perceived a number of the University Students, who joined in the cry of "Clear the Gallery," and many other similar cries, directed against him. If these Gentlemen had in the course of their studies learned the doctrine of Pythagoras, they would probably be silent. He observed among the crowd a number who were not real Freeholders, and he knew what value was due to their claims. If he had the strength of lungs which he possessed when he first came into their service, even then he could not expect to be heard on the present occasion.

The Marquis of TAVISTOCK observed, that they were then assembled to exercise one of the most important privileges of Englishmen. The Constitution had properly determined, that any Member accepting a place under Government should vacate his seat, and from this provision in the Constitution, they were now assembled to elect a Representative. In the choice of one, they were not to elect a man merely for private virtues, but they were to look to his public conduct. Mr. Yorke had been the uniform supporter of the present Administration, under whom the country had been so lamentably afflicted with taxes and burthens of every kind. Mr. Yorke was the person who renewed the cry, that was supposed to be extinct, of jacobinical conspiracy. Instead of him, therefore, it became necessary to send a man into Parliament who would take his stand on the broad side of the Constitution, who would uphold the liberties of the People, and who would contend for the laws and constitution of our forefathers, against the excesses of popular violence on the one hand, and against the dangerous encroachments of overgrown power on the other. Mr. Yorke, however, was a supporter of the present Ministers in the unconstitutional manner in which they had obtained their power; and very recently he had exerted his parliamentary privilege to revive a standing order of the House, which was enacted for very different purposes. The use he made of his privilege was to deprive, as far as in him lay, the People of England from the melancholy consolation of knowing, at least, who were the authors of their calamities. If the People of England were but fairly and fully represented in Parliament, Mr. Yorke might go from county to county, from city to city, and from borough to borough, and he probably would not find in the whole country an elective body to return him. Under these circumstances, he felt it his duty to recommend to their choice a firm Friend to the Civil Rights of the Country, an honest and independent man, Lord Francis Osborne.

Mr. BRAND seconded the nomination, but was much interrupted by the clamour of Mr. Yorke's friends.

Lord F. OSBORNE said, that in presenting himself to their choice, he was actuated by no feeling of private gain. He stood there not on his account, but theirs; and he sought no private advantage. He had always acted honestly and independently in Parliament; and often directly contrary to the manner in which his nearest connections thought it their duty to act. As to whatever knowledge of their local interests was conceived to be necessary in a Representative, he would spare no pains to make himself master of those subjects; and he trusted that, should he be elected, he would not be found inferior to any in activity in this respect. The Right Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Yorke) must know, that he agreed with him in some points in Parliament, although he often differed. In standing thus forward, he conceived that he was discharging an important public duty. The cause was much more their cause than it was his, and with them he now left it.

Mr. GUNNING thought that the last act of Mr. Yorke's political life was completely of a piece with his former conduct. He had always voted for every burthen, and for every oppression—for every thing which increased the burthens or which diminished the liberties of the subject. If the Ministers wished to hunt the natives of the West Indies with bloodhounds, or introduce the torture amongst our brethren in Ireland, they would always find in Mr. Yorke a ready supporter. He had supported that scheme of cavalry (the provincial cavalry) which laid great burthens on the people, without doing the smallest service. He had been the foremost to stigmatize the people of this country with the terms of Jacobins and Levellers; and when in the House of Commons, charges had been brought forward against the Duke of York, he was the first to cry down these charges as originating in a settled conspiracy against the House of Brunswick, and to declare, that he was extremely happy that the charges had at length assumed a "tangible shape."—He, too, had been more than almost any man an enemy to the liberties of the press. In the examination of Mrs. Clarke, he also went far beyond all the received notions of the liberty of the subject, when he proposed that Mrs. Clarke should be imprisoned, in order to prevent others having access to her. He had long been the bosom friend of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and he was now himself a Teller of the Exchequer. If he had a shepherd who not only had wasted the flock, but had come back clothed in their wool, would he hire him?—(*No! no!*) He would tell him that he had betrayed his trust, and that it would be his own fault if he should ever again be deceived by him.—(*Shouts of applause.*)

Mr. YORKE believed he could defend himself from all the accusations brought against him. As to the provincial cavalry, that was a thing which he had nothing to do with. As to the charges against the Duke of York, although he thought in his conscience that the Duke was not guilty of corruption or criminal connivance, yet, from the high rank he held in the State, it was very improper for him to connect himself with Mrs. Clarke. If that question had come on before the other, he should have voted for it. As to charging the press of London with being engaged in a conspiracy, he avowed the charge, and would say, that it still exists. He complained that every thing he said in the House of Commons was misrepresented; and could appeal to Mr. Brand, to the Marquis of Tavistock, whether, at this moment, there existed not a *conspiracy* among them not to report the speeches of Mr. Tierney and Mr. Windham.—(*A laugh!*)—He believed that there was now a conspiracy to misrepresent or suppress all that was said by persons who were not favourites of the London Editors. That a great conspiracy did exist against the Duke of York, was, as he thought, sufficiently proved by the Jury, who, in the action against Mr. Wardle, conceived that there was a conspiracy to run down the Duke, and in this conspiracy he conceived the London press a party. As to the Gallery of the House of Commons, it did not hold above 150 persons, and was generally filled with Editors and Proprietors of the London Newspapers. It was impossible that the great body of the people should be admitted; and his only object for moving the Standing Order was, that there should be no misrepresentation of what passed there. It was not necessary for him to enter into any defence of his general conduct.—(*No indeed!*) He had ever been the active opposer of those who either at home or abroad were endeavouring to destroy the greatness of Old England—(*Cries of "Off! off!" No loyal cant.*) As much misrepresentation was circulated about the nature of the office which it had pleased his Majesty (*not his Majesty, but the Ministers*) to confer upon him, he begged to say that it was an ancient and *honourable* one, regulated by Acts of Parliament, and not paid, as was industriously stated, out of the *public taxes*. The salary was made up by small fees levied upon every issue of money from the Exchequer, and did not amount to *more* than 2300*l.* per annum!! He had heard that

his exertions in Eubrink Fen had offended some of his former supporters.—[A Freeholder from the body of the Meeting stated that it was true; for his own part his property had been without notice affected. He had by that cut paid already 150l. and was now in arrears 71l.]—Mr. Yorke—I had no personal object to answer, and I am confident every notice was given. [The Freeholder—There was no notice either to me or my neighbours. It was smuggled through in the dark. It was a mere job.]—Mr. Yorke concluded by thanking the Meeting for the *favourable* hearing he at length got, and assured them, that if in his public course he had been mistaken, it was an error in judgment.—(*Murmurs, and cries of Off, off, off!*)

Mr. Banno then commented on the public conduct of Mr. Yorke. He considered that he had, in a regular, permanent and unvaried course, attempted to excite jealousies and suspicions, by loose charges of disaffection and disloyalty. At the time Mr. Wardle brought his charge against the Duke of York, the Right Honourable Teller of the Exchequer considered the accusation as a conspiracy against the House of Brunswick,—At a time that the people were naturally anxious and desirous to learn what was the cause of the melancholy failure of the Expedition to Walcheren, the Right Hon. Gentleman shut the door of the House of Commons against them. What public character he once possessed he had now lost, as the opinions which he might in future deliver in Parliament could not be considered disinterested.

The Rev. Mr. Browne thought that the whole of Mr. Yorke's political life had been a system of error in judgment. When he complained of the Newspapers *misrepresenting his speeches*, he would ask if they *misrepresented his votes also*? Was he ever found voting on the popular side of the question? or was there ever a measure injurious to the liberties of his country which he did not support?

The Marquis of Tavistock said that if Mr. Yorke had taken a responsible place, he might be somewhat more independent, for then he might throw up such place whenever he should differ in opinion from his colleagues; but in taking a place of this sort for life, he was much more dependant because no one could expect him to give up this sinecure, and he must feel it as a perpetual obligation to those who gave it. To act contrary to their measures would subject him to the imputation of one of the most hateful sins which can enter the human breast, that of ingratitude.

The High Sheriff then put the question, when, on a shew of hands, the numbers were in proportion of ten to one in favour of Lord F. Osborne. Mr. Yorke's friends demanded a poll, which was fixed for Friday, March 16, on which day, Mr. Sinecure Yorke having previously declined a contest in which defeat was certain, and no other Candidate appearing, Lord Francis Godolphin Osborne was declared duly elected. After returning his thanks, he was chaired through the town amidst the huzzas of a delighted populace.

ASSIZES.

Hereford, March 13.—Mary Fordham was indicted for the wilful murder of her bastard child, by giving it a blow on the head with a brick, of which it died on Saturday, the 3d of September last. Some doubts having arisen, whether the child was born alive, or whether the wound which appeared in its head might not have been occasioned by its being thrown into a hole in the floor when dead, the Jury acquitted her of the murder, but found her guilty of the concealment of the birth of the child; upon which she was sentenced to two years imprisonment.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Monday, March 12.

SLAVE TRADE.

Lord Holland called their Lordships attention to the state of the Slave Trade. Notwithstanding this country, by a magnanimous but just act of her legislature, had put an end to the disgraceful and inhuman traffic which she had carried on for many years in human flesh, yet her objects were, in a great degree, frustrated by those very countries that were in alliance with us; for at this day that trade is conducted with more than usual zeal by Portugal, Spain, and especially by Sweden; not so much by Spain as by those other nations; and when he enumerated Sweden among the number, sorry was he to state that the abominable commerce was not carried on by Swedish capital, but by British capital under sanction of the Swedish flag; by men who, unable any longer to deal in it under their own country's flag, violate their own country's laws by their shield of foreign alliance. This his Lordship observed had extended to such a degree as, in a great measure, to render abortive all the legislature of the United Kingdom had done to extinguish this odious and unjust commerce. His Lordship enforced this topic with suggesting to Ministers the necessity of coming to some understanding, upon principles of reciprocity, with America upon the subject, and moving Addresses to his Majesty for Copies of the Instructions given at various periods since the year 1806, and for Copies of all Correspondence between them and Ministers at home relative thereto.

Lord Liverpool had no objection to the production of the Papers; it would be seen, whenever they appeared, that no means were left unassayed by his Majesty's Ministers on the subject.—Agreed to.

INTENDED EXPEDITIONS.

The Earl of Darnley called the attention of their Lordships to the state of our disposable force. His motive for this was, because it is reported that Ministers intend to send the whole of that force out of the country upon foreign service.—This, his Lordship contended, was not only impolitic, but dangerous. In order to establish this, he took a retrospective view of all our recent Expeditions, every one of which, he contended, was not only unnecessary and improvident, but fatal and disastrous in the extreme. From the experience the country has therefore had of Ministers' incapacity in their past schemes and operations in foreign warfare, he thought the House and Country should be jealous how they committed into their hands an opportunity of wasting any more of the blood of her best citizens. His Lordship concluded with moving an Address to his Majesty, "That he would be graciously pleased to direct, that there be laid before the House an Account of the Disposable Effective Force of the Army, up to the latest date that the same can be made out."

Lord Mountjoy defended Ministers, and the conduct which they had pursued in carrying on the war, and contended that the country had a right to continue its confidence in them, from the experience which it has had in their *prompt* and *patriotic* exertions.

The Marquis of Downshire (in a maiden speech) agreed entirely with the Noble Earl who submitted the motion; and among other facts he stated, as a reason that no more of our disposable force should be sent out of the kingdom, that there were very little more than 3000 veteran troops in Ireland to repel any enemy that might attempt to invade that country.

On the question being again put,

Lord Darnley expressed his astonishment that none of his Majesty's Ministers would condescend to answer his observations; upon which

The Earl of Harrowby rose up and said, that their silence upon this motion was the best proof that they could give of their title to the confidence both of his Majesty and of the People.

The question was negatived without a division.

EAST INDIA COMPANY.

The Earl of Lauderdale moved for a Committee of several Lords, whose names were recited, to investigate the affairs of the East India Company, and report the same to that House.—Ordered.—Adjourned.

Nothing of particular interest occurred in this House on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. On Friday, Lord King, after noticing the great and increasing evils attending the introduction of Foreign Troops into this kingdom, which he deemed

highly unconstitutional, and wholly unknown in the better periods of our history, moved for a Return of the Numbers of Foreign Troops in British Pay, and of the Districts in which they were employed.—Agreed to.—And

Lord HOLLAND gave notice of a motion for Thursday next respecting the Exchange of Prisoners between England and France. His Lordship said he was sorry to give this notice in the absence of the Noble Lord at the Head of the Admiralty; but there might be reasons for his absence; and *if any intercourse still subsisted between him and his Colleagues*, perhaps they would have the goodness to convey to him a communication of the notice just given.—Adjourned to Monday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, March 12.

JOHN GALE JONES.

Sir F. BURDETT rose to call the attention of the House to the consideration of their proceedings with respect to Mr. Jones. He lamented that he had been prevented by indisposition from being present on the former proceedings on this subject, because he was now placed by that circumstance in an awkward and disagreeable situation; for it was always more difficult to persuade the House to retract their proceedings in any case, than it would have been, perhaps, to prevail upon them not to have recourse to them at first. Many people seemed to carry their ideas of the privileges of that House very high; but if there were any of its privileges which were repugnant to the laws by which the country was governed, he should wish them to be referred to and examined by these laws, on which alone was to be founded the security of the subject, and by which alone the conduct of every man ought to be measured. He begged to remark, that this House was not the Parliament of the country, and therefore its resolutions could not have the force of laws. This House was only the third and *inferior* branch of the Legislature.—*(Order! Order!)*

The SPEAKER said, he apprehended it was not orderly in the Hon. Baronet to use such an expression.

Sir FRANCIS said, if that was the case, then he would only state what was at least quite obvious, that an Act of Parliament and an Order of that House were very different things: and when there had been an Order to commit any person to custody, he thought it would be quite sufficient for altering that Order, if it was shewn to be in violation of the known laws of the land, and in opposition to the known rights and privileges of the subject. He did not mean to argue the question with any reference to the person who had fallen under their displeasure, but merely on constitutional grounds; neither did he mean to call in question the powers of the House when exercising its functions of the Grand Inquest of the Nation, to commit persons for false evidence or prevarication. He wished that Gentlemen would keep in their minds the difference between *privileges* and *power*. The privileges of the House were an authority originally assumed for its own protection, as a shield for the defence of Members against the power of the Crown, and ought not to be used as a sword against any part of the public. The privileges of the House are most ancient, and are mentioned by Spelman, as even referred to in the time of Canute, when it was ordained, "that no person going to, present at, or returning from the Wittenagemote, or Great Council, should meet with any interruption." The next traces of these privileges were as early as the reign of Edward II. where we find that all persons coming to Parliament were exempted from serving on Juries, and other county business, in order that their whole time might be given up to the public service. After this, we find that even the goods and servants of Members of Parliament were entitled to the privilege of exemption from arrest. These, together with perfect freedom of speech, constituted the privileges of the House; but he would beg Gentlemen to observe, that the grand object of all these privileges was to maintain the personal freedom of the Members, but not one of them contrary to the law of the land. In illustration of this, the Hon. Baronet mentioned a variety of examples, and particularly that of Mr. Chedder, who was Member for Somersetshire, and happened to be assaulted, beaten, and abused; but such was the modesty of the times, that the House were content that their Member should be protected, and obtain remedy by the ordinary course of law, and did not take it up to punish the offence themselves. Indeed up to the time of the Long Parliament and the Civil Wars, he could not find any instance of the House taking justice into its own hands, and revenging the wrongs of its Members. The fact was, that the Long Parliament had recourse to this power of punishment, to counteract the power of the Crown; that power, which, like a torrent, was laying waste the country, and against which Parliament alone could raise any effectual barrier. In this view it was tolerated by the people, and at last ended in Parliament assuming the whole authority to themselves, and in bringing the King to the block. After the restoration, Parliament shewed an evident reluctance to part with that punitive jurisdiction which they had formerly acquired, and were in the habit of claiming—powers which, in his mind, they never did and never could constitutionally possess. The Hon. Baronet then alluded to the differences which took place between the two Houses in the reign of Charles the Second, on the subject of appeals to the Lords. In one of those cases of appeal, which was that of Crispe, the Commons thought fit to order into imprisonment one of the Clerks of the Upper House; the Lords remonstrated with great force against the measure, contending that it was contrary to Magna Charta, and all the privileges which were the birthright of every subject. The two Houses at that time were in the habit of deciding against the justice of each other's conduct, and this afforded a strong presumption that both of them were wrong. The Honourable Baronet then proceeded to consider the case of the three Judges, who in 1697 had fallen under the displeasure of the House of Lords. But they declined the jurisdiction of that House, justly stating that if yielded to, the decision of both the law and the fact would be in the same hands, and that an acquittal at the bar of the House would not prevent them from being accused and punished in another place. Every part of this argument applied to the case before the House. Might not Jones be prosecuted and tried in another Court, after undergoing his present imprisonment?—And was he not actually under prosecution for libel by a Noble Lord (Castlereagh), who was a Member of the House, and who, if he saw fit, might complain of him to the House also for breach of privilege, and get him sent again to Newgate? The Hon. Gentleman who had accepted the Tellership, and who was not a Member of the House, nor, as he now understood, was likely to be, *(Hear! Hear!)* what was there to prevent him from bringing an action for libel against Jones? His having already suffered imprisonment by order of the House, could not in law be considered as a plea in bar of a new prosecution or punishment; so in this way a man might be punished twice for the same offence, which was quite incompatible with every idea of justice. The Hon. Baronet then mentioned the case of a pamphlet of Wilkes, in 1771. The House resenting something contained in it, ordered their Serjeant to bring the Printer to the Bar; but the Printer, on the contrary, apprehended the Serjeant, who was committed to custody by Aldermen Oliver and Crosby, because he had not a warrant backed by any City Officer. The House on that occasion did not think fit to meddle farther with the Printer, but they sent the two Aldermen, who were Members, to the Tower. The privileges of the House were given to prevent the interruption of business, and he thought it impossible to shew how we could be interrupted in our proceedings by the offence ascribed to this individual. The highest legal authorities had laid it down as a fit principle, that no Court could fine or imprison that was not a Court of Record, or that could not hold a plea of forty shillings damages. The House was not a Court which held any such plea; it had now renounced the practice of fining persons called to its bar, but imprisonment was a higher punishment, and it was a principle of law, that *ea minus non contingit, non contingit majus*. He also conceived, that the warrant of commitment was contrary to the law of the land. It was for an indefinite time, and did not run, as every legal warrant did, until freed by due course of law; it was ruled in the books, that a warrant to commit

the parties during pleasure was ill. From whatever branch of the Constitution arbitrary power proceeded into action, even should it be from the popular branch itself, who were the peculiar guardians of the people's rights, he thought it the first duty of every honest Englishman to oppose it. He would ask, had not Jones been committed contrary to the Great Charter of the land? Had he been tried by his Peers? Had he had an opportunity of defending himself? Let us look a little at our own proceedings. Here is an individual brought before us, and we unite in our own hands all those powers, which in the case of other offences are separated. We are at the same time parties, and unite both the judicial and executive functions. In all other cases, the question whether it is an offence or not, is decided by the Grand Jury, while the evidence is judged of by another set of men; but we unite all those seemingly incompatible functions, and are at the same time the judges in our own cause. It surely ill became that branch of the Constitution, which was the peculiar guardian of the people's rights, to set the example of encroachment upon them, and to discover a wish that this power should not remain in any hands but their own. The Honourable Baronet here quoted the declaration of a Member, (the late Sir Fletcher Norton), who said he would pay no more attention to the Resolutions of the House of Commons, when contrary to law, than he would do to the Bye-Laws of a Corporation of drunken Cobblers. Upon the whole, if upon all these considerations the House should agree with him in thinking that it had exercised an authority in this case which did not legitimately belong to it, they could do nothing else in that case but agree to the motion with which he should conclude, "That J. G. Jones be discharged from custody in Newgate."

Mr. W. WYNNE and Lord A. HAMILTON both opposed the motion, on the ground that a power of commitment for contempt was exercised by every Court of Record in the kingdom, and what therefore was granted to the most inferior court could not surely be denied to the House of Commons. This power was a part of the common law of the land.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL replied to several observations of the Hon. Baronet respecting proceedings of Courts of Law, in relation to the privileges of the House. These privileges were not without the support of the solemn judgments of the Courts of Law. If the confinement was illegal, then the person had a remedy by applying for his Habeas Corpus. When this application was made, the Judges would first have to decide the question, whether the House had those privileges, and if they did not recognise them to be according to the Law of the Land, then they would of course discharge the prisoner. But the Courts below would say, they could not look into the grounds of committal, more than the King's Bench could take cognizance of a contempt of Court punished by the Court of Common Pleas, or of Chancery. In confirmation of this, the learned Gentleman quoted the opinion of Chief Justice De Grey, in the case of Brass Crosby, the Lord Mayor, committed to the Tower by the House, and who applied for his Habeas Corpus. That Learned Judge expressly said, that this power of committal possessed by the House was part of the law of the land. The same opinion had been recognized by Lord Kenyon, in the case of Flower. He wished merely to state these things to the House, to shew that this was not a point which had not been amply discussed.

Mr. CRESSETT declared his inability to concur in the sentiments of his Hon. Friend who originated this discussion. For in his opinion the right of committal in such cases as had been referred to, justly and necessarily belonged to that House. Indeed it was essential to the performance of its duty.

Lord FOLKSTONE said, no body denied that the House had a right to commit for contempt of Court; but with respect to a breach of privilege his Hon. Friend had stated only, that in case of a person applying for a Habeas Corpus, the judge must necessarily determine whether there had been really a breach of privilege or not. In whatever light it was viewed, he could not help thinking that it was a serious question that a man should suffer for an undefined offence, and that committed against themselves, who were the judges as well as accusers. He was not disposed, however, to go all the lengths that his Honourable Friend, the Baronet, had done, in denying the right of the House to commit, and therefore wished the motion had been so framed as to have kept that part of the question out of view.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL contended, that the House had a right to commit for breach of privilege, as well as of contempt of Court. It was the law of Parliament, and the law of Parliament was a part of the law of the land, and therefore of equal authority. The Noble Lord admitted the right of the House to commit, in cases of contempt; and was not the present a case of contempt? Even transgression of the standing orders of the House, even breach of privilege, was a contempt of Court.

Mr. SHERIDAN expressed his surprise at some of the doctrines advanced by the Hon. Baronet on this subject, particularly that in which he described this House as the *inferior* branch of the Legislature. He could not agree that that House, which contained the representation of the people (even such as it was) should be set down as the inferior branch of the Legislature. If the House were reformed, it would doubtless be so much the better; but whether or not, it made no difference as to the description given of it by the Hon. Baronet, which he really believed must have been a slip or mistake. But if the Hon. Baronet had gone to the extreme on the one hand, he did not like the extreme that had been resorted to on the other. What offence was there in a debating society? The Right Hon. Gentleman who had brought forward the question, who was now a Teller of the Exchequer, and a candidate for Cambridgeshire, and who, for the honour and credit of the country, he hoped would not be returned, (*Hear! Hear!*) in proposing it to the House, had read a paragraph from the Bill of Rights, which was directed not against the people, but against the Court, as the most likely to interfere with the privileges of the House. A breach of privilege was known in no place out of Parliament. Carry the principle that was argued for to its utmost extent, and the City of London, and every other Incorporation in the kingdom, as well as all county meetings, would be precluded from expressing their opinion with respect to their Representatives. If they did this, they would take from the people the last right which they enjoyed. These were questions the House ought not to enter into; when they did, they never got well out of them. What remedy had they but the sense of the people against a bad Administration? He remembered, when Lord North cleared the gallery, they had meetings in all parts of the kingdom condemning that proceeding. The truth was, they dared not apply the principle to the higher bodies, and why wreak their vengeance on a debating club? The Hon. Member concluded by moving, as an Amendment, that Mr. Gale Jones having expressed contrition for his conduct at the Bar of the House, and having been above three weeks in Newgate, be discharged.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER could not consent either to the motion or to the amendment. With respect to the arguments urged by the Hon. Baronet, no body seemed to agree with him. The Right Hon. Gentleman who had just sat down, had complained that Gale Jones should be made a martyr to the doctrines that had been advanced; and was the House upon the same principle to have no regard to its privileges? It was much the same whether they denied the right or the expediency of the commitment. The cases of corporations and county meetings were different from spouting clubs, as they were legal and constituted bodies. He had no objection that Gale Jones should be liberated, but he would wish first to see a petition to the House from him, as the most usual and most respectful mode of applying for the indulgence of the House. With respect to the contrition he expressed at the Bar, that took place before his commitment, and if allowed any weight, might have been equally urged for his non-commitment, as for his subsequent discharge. Should that individual be so ill advised as not to come forward to petition the House, which he hoped was not the case, the House, he thought, would very ill consult its own dignity, by voluntarily discharging him.

Lord TEMPLE said, he could not accede to the principle of the motion, and as he did not wish to have it carried by a side wind, he must also oppose the amendment. Should Gale Jones come to-morrow with a petition to the House, he should be the first to vote for his discharge.

Mr. WHITBREAD stated, that he would vote for the amendment, as he thought the person had now been confined a sufficient time. He did not see that a petition was necessary, as contrition had been already expressed at the Bar. He admitted the right and power of the House to commit in such instances, though that power might be sometimes invidiously exercised.

Sir FRANCIS BURDETT replied, when the question was put on the amendment, which was negatived without a division.

A division then followed on the original question:—For it, 14; against it, 153; majority, 139.

The House then went into the Committee of Inquiry into the Golgotha Expedition. After a short discussion the House resumed. Lord CASTLEREAGH moved for a copy of a letter sent by his Lordship to Lord Chatham on the 21st of August last. Agreed to.—Adjourned.

Tuesday, March 13.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

Some conversation took place on the Marine Pay Office Regulation Bill, the committal of which was postponed to this day month,—when the Report of the Finance Committee on the mode of auditing the Public Accounts and other subjects, would be in the hands of the Members. The amount of Mr. Villiers's defalcation, in 1804, was *two hundred and eighty-five thousand pounds.*—Mr. BANKES stated, that no account of the following years had been laid before the Committee of Finance, and he was much afraid that the materials necessary to a further investigation of this business *could not be found!!* The Committee however would do their duty, and when their Report was laid before the House, it would shew that a most extraordinary mode of keeping the accounts had prevailed in the Marine Pay Office; that those who audited the accounts looked only to the expenditure, without at all turning their eyes to the receipts, and thus the balances in the possession of the Paymaster were unknown to those who prepared his accounts!!!

The House then went into a Committee on the Golgotha Expedition; when Lord Castlereagh and Sir R. Strachan were again examined.

Wednesday, March 14.

ORDNANCE ESTIMATES.

The House having gone into a Committee of Supply, Mr. ASHLEY COOPER stated that the total saving on the Ordnance Estimates for this year amounted to 1,492,209*l.* and the total sum he should call upon the Committee to vote for the Ordnance service for the current year amounted to 3,819,466*l.* The savings arose from various causes: there was a reduction in the Foreign Service of 200,000*l.*—in Works and Repairs, 260,000*l.*—in Draught Horses, 60,000*l.*—in the Diminution of the Number of Depots, 100,000*l.*—in New Works, 17,000*l.*—in Ireland, 123,000*l.*—Mr. Cooper then moved that the above sum be voted to defray the Ordnance Estimates for the current year.

Mr. CALCRAFT complained of most shameful extravagance in the purchase of Houses for the use of the Board and its Officers, and in the building of barracks at Chatham; the barracks built there would only hold 1000 men, and yet they cost 150,000*l.* A part of this building was a model of foolish and indecent extravagance; plate glass was used for the windows! Mr. Calcraft noticed several other items which he deemed highly exceptionable. Many military Gentlemen were in the habit of using the King's Horses, and when called upon for the assessed taxes, pleaded that they were not their property. This abuse had gone to such a length, that one individual had engrossed for his own private service no less than five of his Majesty's horses, and nine soldiers as grooms, valets, and, for aught he knew, cooks and postillions!! This person in his defence said that he only did what many others were in the habit of doing.—No less than 870,000*l.* a year were the country now paying for District Horses to carry on the works of the fortifications, while the artillery horses were idle and doing nothing but eating up the corn: these horses should do the work of the district horses. In fact, this corps, which cost 400,000*l.* a year, and was only useful in case of invasion, might be very much reduced: instead of 6000, he would have but 1000.

Mr. COOPER observed that the House in Pall Mall (formerly the Union Club) had been purchased for 25,000*l.* for the use of the Board, who had been compelled to remove from St. Margaret-street on account of the projected improvements in Westminster. The cost of the house for the Secretary was 7168*l.* Mr. Wyatt was the builder of the Chatham erections, and he hoped no farther sums would be called for on that head. The abuse respecting the use of the horses and men would be stopped altogether; but the artillery horses could not do the business of the contract horses.

Mr. J. SMITH said that the expences at Woolwich amounted to the enormous sum of 700,000*l.* He could not think that all these works were necessary: some of them were a jest even in the arsenal! Upon one wharf, which was always completing and yet never finished, they were spending 20,000*l.* a year!

Mr. WARDLE strongly objected to the voting money under the head "Unprovided for," for the House knew nothing of the mode of expenditure. Such a head would cover all kinds of blunders, and might be made ten millions as well as any other sum. The expence of the Artillery Corps had increased though the corps had diminished. Distinct sums were first to be voted for buildings at the Cinque Ports, and every other place, and then they called for a sweeping sum under the general heads of "Depots," and "Defence of the Country."—It was the bounden duty of the House to watch these things narrowly.

Mr. COOPER answered, that the cost of the land at Woolwich had been enormous, as advantage had been taken of the immediate wants of the public. The charge under the head of Artillery Corps was an error in the account. The general head of "Defence of the Country," was for towers and batteries on the coast; and by the head of "Depots," was meant the articles themselves, which were distinct from the buildings erected to hold them.

Mr. W. SMITH was astonished to see upwards of 100,000*l.* set against such buildings as those at Waltham Abbey; but the public he knew paid full 30 per cent. more for such works than individuals would. The works at Woolwich too had cost this year 78,000*l.* and the expence of the last four years was 422,000*l*!!! To what extent was the House to be called upon for these works? How was the country to be relieved but by economy in its expenditure, and by checking even the smallest abuse? He fully believed that there was scarcely a single public office in which the national interest was not made subservient to some individual object.

Mr. W. POLE said that the buildings at Waltham Abbey were rendered necessary to supply the want of gunpowder, the annual expenditure of which was from 50 to 60,000 barrels. These buildings were erected under the auspices of Gen. Congreve, and instead of 10 or 12,000 barrels a year being produced, as formerly, 22,000, of a better quality, were now manufactured. The expence of the Martello Towers became necessary on account of the *clamour out of doors respecting Invasion.* Things were indeed different now; for invasion was now almost morally impossible, as the enemy had it not in his power to put out two sail of the line from any port from Gibraltar to the North Cape. These Towers had been built with great difficulty and expence.

Mr. WARDLE said, if invasion was now such a bug-bear, why was there a charge of 150,000*l.* to guard against it?

Mr. PARNELL could place no confidence in the Estimates. In such an attendance of the House (there were not 50 members present) when four millions of the public money were to be voted, he should move "that the Chairman do report progress, and ask leave to sit again."

Mr. WHITBREAD particularly objected to the general heads

of "Contingencies;" there were contingencies at Quebec, and contingencies at Curacoa; but as the money had been actually expended, why not account for it? These lumping "contingencies" amounted to 109,000*l.* they were altogether unexplained, and the House should insist upon having information. (Here Mr. POLE observed, that the Estimates had *for years* been made up after this form, and no fault had been found before!!) Mr. WHITBREAD remarked, that if they had been so passed for years, that was a farther reason why they should now call for a statement, and he did call for it.

After some conversation, however, no division took place, and the Resolution was agreed to, as were others relating to Miscellaneous services.—Adjourned.

Thursday, March 15.

Leave was given to bring in a Bill authorising the inclosure of Sydenham Common.

SPECIE.

Mr. HUSKISSON made a few observations respecting the specie of the country, as he said his evidence before the Committee had been misrepresented. At the period to which that evidence referred the Bank had ample means of furnishing Government with specie, had Ministers chosen to have exercised the right with which they were invested. If the question of cash payments at the Bank had been considered merely as a *banking question*, unconnected with the political state of *Europe*, he had no difficulty in saying that the Bank was in a condition to meet with perfect safety any termination of the restriction upon payments in specie. Since the period alluded to, Government had not withdrawn from the Bank the means they then possessed. A great deal had been said upon the silver currency; but it is well known that silver did not form any part of the standing currency of the realm, for it is declared by law that no payment for a sum exceeding 25*l.* could be made in silver, unless it was tendered by weight at the *standard price*. Government therefore had purchased silver as they would any other merchandize, and he had no doubt but that more might have been had. He then moved "that there be laid before the House an account of all issues of the coin of this realm from the Bank of England since the 1st of May 1793, under any Orders in Council, made for that purpose, specifying the date of each Order, and the amount thereon."—Agreed to.

NEW THEATRE.

Sir JAMES SHAW presented a Petition relative to the intended New Theatre, which was ordered to lie on the table, after the Clerk had mumbled it over in a manner wholly unintelligible.

After some further business, the House went into a Committee on the Golgotha Expedition, and the visitors were dismissed.

Friday, March 16.

Mr. PARNELL moved for an account of all sums expended last year in the Ordnance service. This motion was resisted by Mr. A. COOPER and Mr. PERCEVAL, on the ground that it was totally impossible to make out such a return; some of the charges might not be known till 1811.—Mr. PARNELL, in reply, said that all he wanted was a return of the money actually *paid*, which he thought might readily be furnished.—His motion was however lost.

Mr. SHERIDAN gave notice of a motion for Friday next, respecting Spain. Mr. PERCEVAL wishing him to defer it till certain Papers on the subject were laid on the table,—Mr. SHERIDAN remarked, that as his motion would be for a direct censure on the conduct of Ministers, they had quite information enough for that purpose, and he should not take the trouble to read the Papers were they now on the table. (*A laugh*).

The Bankers' Drafts Bill was thrown out on the second reading.

On the Ordnance Report being presented, a short conversation took place.—Mr. BANKES sharply condemned the manner in which business was conducted in the public offices, where, from the want of control, immense sums were idly lavished to one good end.—Mr. POLE contended that there had been a reduction of a million and a half in the Ordnance Expenditure, which was a proof of the attention of Government.—Mr. HUSKISSON observed, that something ought to be done to form a permanent system of Finance, or we should be in a very awkward predicament:—he recommended a scale of expenditure suited to that economy which was rendered necessary, as the war might continue for a long period. Considerable savings might still be made.—Mr. WHITBREAD again most forcibly alluded to the "contingencies," of which he was still in complete ignorance; and as to the Martello Towers and Military Canal, they were good for nothing whatever, though constructed at such an immense expense!—The Report was agreed to, and the House adjourned till Monday.

INQUIRY INTO THE SCHELDT EXPEDITION.

ABSTRACT OF THE MINUTES OF EVIDENCE *taken before the Committee of the whole House, appointed to consider of the Policy of the late Expedition to the Scheldt.*

FOURTEENTH DAY.

Wm. Huskisson, Esq. M. P. examined.—When the Expedition sailed there was no foreign coin applicable to military service at the disposal of Government. The Treasury, in 1808 and 1809, took steps to secure all the foreign silver coin and all the silver coin in the Bank, the whole only amounted to 125,000*l.* In August last, the Commissary General made an urgent demand for a further supply, and the Bank purchased for Government all the dollars that could then be procured, amounting to 43,000*l.* A much larger sum was wanted, but there was no more in the market, and the Bank had none to spare.—Mr. Huskisson was of opinion, that had 40,000 British troops been disembarked in the Elbe and Weser in July, "the pecuniary means could not have been procured in this country, and the difficulty of raising a credit in any place upon the Continent which could have been made available to the use of the British army in the field, appeared almost insurmountable."—The expence of such a force would not have been less than from 150,000*l.* to 200,000*l.* per month. The loss in the exchange would be from 18 to 20 per cent.

FIFTEENTH DAY.

The Minutes of Evidence this day contain the re-examination of *Sir Lucas Pepys, Gen. Don, Capt. Owen, Capt. Puget,* and *Capt. Pasley.*—*Capt. Owen* stated it to be his opinion, that the possession of Walcheren, if the island could have been maintained, would have been of the greatest advantage to this country, and that, without it, the enemy's fleet in the Scheldt cannot be properly watched, except by having fleets of nearly equal force both in the Downs and at Yarmouth.—*Capt. Pasley* was of opinion, that the works of Flushing might have been defended by a moderate garrison against all the force of the French Empire.—*Sir Lucas Pepys* stated, that what he meant by saying, that he knew nothing of the investigation of camp diseases, applied to the inspectorial duties, which he conceived himself called upon to exercise, and not to the nature of the disease.—*Lieut.-Gen. Don* considered the basin of Flushing to have been effectually destroyed.—*Capt. Puget* described the situation of the sick at Flushing, 600 of whom were, in August, sleeping *on the boards*, with their great coats on, and knapsacks under their heads!! With respect to medicines, he was informed by Colonel Cochrane, who commanded a regiment of detachments, that they had been without medicine for four days.

SIXTEENTH DAY.

Mr. Wharton examined.—The following passage contains the substance of his evidence:—Q What is the total amount of the expence incurred by the late Expedition to the Scheldt?—A. The total of the *extraordinary* expences incurred is 834,275*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.* of which 211,565*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.* was incurred after the evacuation of South Beveland.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

W. Herbert, jun. Llandiloes, Montgomeryshire, draper, from April 3 to 14, at ten, at the Star Inn, Manchester.

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

J. Brace, Butt-lane, Kent, dealer.

J. Pattison, Princes-street, Cavendish-square, coach-maker.

BANKRUPTS.

J. Waidson, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, tailor. Attorney, Mr. Railton, Clifford's-Inn.

J. and C. Whitehead, Hanley, Staffordshire, earthenware-manufacturers. Attornies, Messrs. Birch and Co. Hanley.

A. Drakeford, Coleshill, Warwickshire, butcher. Attorney, Mr. Palmer, Coleshill.

J. Reed, Bath, confectioner. Attorney, Mr. Crutwell, Bath.

J. Phillips, East Stonehouse, Devonshire, stone-mason. Attorney, Mr. Bousflower, Devonshire-street, Queen-square.

J. Payne, Burnham, Essex, cloaths salesman. Attorney, Mr. Coote, Austin-friars.

W. Butcher, Brighton, plumber. Attornies, Messrs. Goode, Howland-street, Fitzroy-square.

W. Hask, Hampstead, haberdasher. Attorney, Mr. Cuppage, Jermyn-street, St. James's.

T. Clive and S. Richardson, Tokenhouse-yard, merchants. Attornies, Messrs. Palmer and Co. Copthall-court.

J. Richardson and J. Sanderson, Tunbridge, Kent, farmers. Attornies, Messrs. Stone, Tunbridge Wells.

W. Shaw, Long-acre, Middlesex, cheesemonger. Attorney, Mr. Patten, Cross-street, Hatton-garden.

R. Price and W. Cross, Bristol, merchants. Attorney, Mr. Oakley, Martin's-lane, Cannon-street.

J. Maxted, Little Earl-street, Middlesex, victualler. Attorney, Mr. Whitton, Great George-street, Bedford-row.

J. Baker, Tokenhouse-yard, merchant. Attorney, Mr. Tilson, Chatham-place, Blackfriars.

G. Hewitt, Southmolton-street, Hanover-square, tailor. Attorney, Mr. Newcomb, Vine-street, Piccadilly.

J. Bullard, Birmingham, coal-dealer. Attorney, Mr. Rutson, Wellclose-square, London.

LONDON GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY,

FRIDAY, MARCH 16.

Downing Street, March 15, 1810.

Captain Wilby, Aid-de-Camp to Lieutenant-General Sir George Beckwith, K. B. commanding his Majesty's Forces in the Windward and Leeward Islands, arrived this morning with a dispatch from the Lieut.-General to the Earl of Liverpool, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, of which the following is a copy:—

[This copy and its attendant letters are much too long and too trifling for insertion in the *Examiner*. Had our Generals made the capture of Paris, with Bonaparte and his new Bride into the bargain, they could not have been more diffuse;—a brief abstract, therefore, of the details of the conquest of this sugar island will be quite sufficient.]

General Beckwith states that in conjunction with Admiral Cochrane they sailed from Martinique on the 22d January, and arrived at the place of rendezvous, (Prince Rupert's, Dominica), where they were detained 48 hours. The army was formed into five brigades, under Brigadier-Generals Harcourt, Barrow, Maclean, Skinner, and Wale.—These brigades were formed into two divisions and a reserve. The first division was commanded by Major-General Hislop; the second by Brigadier-Gen. Harcourt; and the reserve by Brigadier-General Wale. The second division and the reserve sailed from Dominica on the 26th Jan. and anchored in the Saintes. The first division followed in the afternoon, and anchored on the 27th at Isle Gosier, Grande Terre; proceeding on the 28th across the bay to St. Mary's, where a landing was effected without opposition. In the afternoon the first division moved forward to Capesterre and Grand Riviere, the reserve remaining to cover the landing of provisions, &c. On the 29th the first division marched and took post at Bammniers River, and the reserve at the same time reached the Grand Riviere. On the 30th the first division advanced to Three Rivers, pushing small detachments on the enemy, the reserve following in the morning. The enemy shewed a disposition to defend the heights D'Olet, but in the afternoon he abandoned all his posts, leaving his ordnance behind. On the 2d Feb. the corps marched in two columns, and advancing took possession of Palmiste and the great road to Basseterre, and found the posts at Laughais abandoned and the guns spiked. The possession of Morne Hoüel being of the highest importance, General Wale marched and occupied it without resistance, the cannon being spiked and the ammunition wasted.—On the 3d the first division took post about a mile from the bridge of Noziere, on the Noire, and occupied M. Peltier's house, where the enemy abandoned a magazine of provisions. In the mean time, the second division weighed from the Saintes on the 29th January, and standing towards Three Rivers, occupied the enemy in that quarter, and facilitated the advance of the rest of the army; but in the night bore up, and landed next morning near the river de Plessis. Immediately marching towards the enemy's right, it compelled him to abandon his defences at Three Rivers, Palmiste, Morne Hoüel, and to return behind the river Noire.—The enemy being thus compressed within narrow limits, the difficulty was to pass the river, to the defence of which much attention had been paid. It was, therefore, deemed necessary to turn his left by the mountains, and the reserve under Brigadier-General Wale was commanded to carry that important service into execution during the night of the 3d February, which he accordingly did, to the entire satisfaction of Gen. Beckwith, although he found it necessary to depart from the plan originally agreed upon, by taking a shorter route. In this arduous service Major Henderson, commanding the Royal York Rangers, was wounded, and this young corps suffered considerably, having no less than four Lieutenants killed, one Field Officer and four Captains wounded; with upwards of 80 men killed and wounded. The effort however decided the conquest; the enemy being so confounded in finding his flank turned, and the heights occupied, that the Captain-General Ernouf instantly hoisted white flags at his own quarters, and other places, whilst the troops were advancing; and indeed this officer's person was much exposed in his own position. The next morning (the 5th) Commissioners were appointed on both sides, and a capitulation was agreed upon, by which the garrison are to have the honours of war, and to be sent to England as prisoners of war until regularly exchanged. The forts to be delivered up as soon as the articles are signed. Four months to be allowed the French Administrations to settle the accounts, and pay the just debts to the inhabitants of Guadaloupe. Six months to be allowed to military officers having property to settle their affairs. The free exercise of religious worship is granted, and perfect security to all colonists. The freedom granted by the French Government to slaves to be held valid, provided it shall not in any case injure private property.

"When the uncommon strength of this country (says General Beckwith) is considered, and the nature of the enemy's position, which had been selected with great attention, covered with redoubts and furnished with artillery, I trust the advance of one column of the army without a single field-piece, and of the other equally unprovided, until within range of the enemy's principal works, will be held by military men a bold and arduous enterprize, where the defence possessed a force, in the first instance, of 3500 men, notwithstanding which, the campaign terminated in eight days. This force underwent a gradual diminution, and latterly a very extensive one, by the falling off of the colonial troops, and by the increase of the sick and wounded, whose numbers (independent of the killed and missing, which are considerable) are stated to exceed 600 men. I hope the services of this army will be honoured with his Majesty's approbation, and the confidence of their country."

The British Commanders, on arriving at Guadaloupe, issued a Proclamation to the inhabitants, inviting submission.—It contained the following curious passages:—"Since the commencement of the French Revolution you have been a prey to every species of calamity that can be brought upon man in a state of society, by a despotism at times unjust and arbitrary, at others atrocious, and at all times rapacious. Providence

has at length decreed that a scandal which has lasted too long should cease, by the removal from these countries of the pernicious influence of the Man who has spread mourning and wretchedness throughout Europe. We come in his Majesty's name to determine your fate, and recal amongst you days of happiness, by making you participate in the prosperity enjoyed by the countries subjected to the King's paternal Government."

The reports of Generals Hislop, Harcourt, and Wale, detailing the operations of the divisions under their orders, are given at great length in the Gazette. The reserve, under General Wale, had peculiar difficulties to encounter in storming the heights: our gallant troops had to advance under a most galling fire from the enemy, who dealt out destruction from behind abbatis and stockaded redoubts. Gen. Wale appears to have acted with admirable skill and presence of mind in getting at the enemy by a route at less than half the distance of the intended one; by his skill and intrepidity, as the Commander in Chief himself observes, the campaign was in fact decided.

Return of killed, wounded, and missing, in the Army under the command of Lieut.-General Sir Geo. Beckwith, K.B.

Total—4 Lieutenants, 3 Serjeants, 45 Rank and File killed; 1 General, 1 Major, 9 Captains, 4 Lieutenants, 1 Staff, 18 Serjeants, 3 Drummers, 213 Rank and File, wounded; 7 Rank and File, missing.

Names of Officers killed at Guadaloupe.

Royal York Rangers—Lieutenants Symonds, Copley, Martineau, and Gregg.

Officers wounded.

Brigadier-General Wale.

Royal York Rangers—Major Henderson; Captains Stirck, Darling, Blosset, and Were.

8th West India Regiment—Captain Grey, Assistant-Quarter-Master-General.

15th Foot—Captain Greirson, slightly.

1st West India Regiment—Captain Cassidy.

3d ditto—Captain Ross, Lieutenant Gloster, Mr. Min, Quarter-Master.

4th Ditto—Captain Reid.

4th Batt. 60th Foot—Lieutenant Rennier and Lieut. Bridgood, slightly.

96th Foot—Lieut. Campbell.

Ensign Sadlier, of the 3d West India Regiment, died of fatigue.

N.B. Besides the above, there were 30 slightly wounded, who joined their corps, when dressed, during the action.—Many of the men are severely wounded, but the wounds in general look well.

Return of Prisoners of War, killed, and wounded, &c. at Guadaloupe, Feb. 8, 1810.

Total Number embarked, 1309; in Hospital, 300; deserted and dispersed about the country (not yet taken up) 259; ditto seamen, 600; killed and wounded, from 5 to 600.

[The dispatches from Vice-Admiral Cochrane give a narrative of the naval preparations. They state that on his arrival off Bassaterre he forbore firing on the forts for fear of injuring the town; but that he sent detachments of marines to take possession of the town, and guard all the avenues leading to the forts. The Vice-Admiral laments the loss of Lieut. Elliott of the Sceptre, killed by a cannon shot.]

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette contains an account of the destruction of 12 small vessels, laden with wines, brandies, rosins, &c. off Rochelle, by the boats of the Christian VIIth and Armide, led by Lieutenant Guion; the Armide had two seamen wounded.—It contains likewise accounts of the capture of a Dutch schooner, of 8 guns and 22 men, and of five other armed vessels, in the East Indies, by the boats of the Modeste and Barracouta, under Lieut. Payne;—the destruction of the Wagster, another Dutch schooner, of 8 guns and 86 men, off Batavia, by the Procris sloop, Capt. Mansell; the capture of L'Oreste French brig, of 16 guns and 110 men, off Guadaloupe, by the Scorpion sloop, Capt. Staufell; and the destruction of the batteries at Bay Mahaut in Guadaloupe, and of a ship and schooner at anchor there, with the capture of an armed brig, by the boats of the Freija, under Lieut. Hope.

The Prince Regent of Portugal has conferred upon Capt. Yeo the rank of a Knight Commander of the Royal Portuguese Military Order of St. Bento d'Avis, on account of his gallant conduct at the taking of Cayenne; and his Majesty has given Capt. Yeo permission to accept the honour.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

W. Phillips, Brighthelmston, carpenter.

BANKRUPTS.

C. Marshall, Little Hermitage-street, sailmaker. Attorney, Mr. Wilde, jun. Castle-street, Falcon-square.

J. Davis, Merthyr Tydvil, Glamorganshire, druggist. Attorney, Mr. Meyrick, Merthyr Tydvil.

J. Davidson, New Brentford, linen-draper. Attorney, Mr. Tilson, Chatham-place, Blackfriars, London.

R. Hewson, R. Higgin, and J. Ilet, Isleworth, calico-printers. Attornies, Messrs. Holmes and Lowden, Clement's-Inn.

J. Welchman, Crewkerne, Somersetshire, linen-draper. Attorney, Mr. Cooke, Bristol.

W. Lifford, Shadwell High-street, rope-maker. Attorney, Mr. Nind, Throgmorton-street.

G. Edwards, Wotton-Underedge, Gloucestershire, shoemaker. Attorney, Mr. James, Gray's Inn-square.

G. and E. L. Lye, Bath, carriers. Attorney, Mr. Salmon, Devizes.

C. Marshall, Vinegar-yard, Southwark, worsted manufacturer. Attorney, Mr. Morton, Gray's-Inn-square.

P. Howell, London-road, Southwark, haberdasher. Attornies, Messrs. Willis and Co. Warneford-court.

J. Aldridge, Bowling-street, Westminster, taylor. Attorney, Mr. Fryett, Millbank-street.

I. C. Jones, New Tothill-street, Westminster, victualler. Attornies, Messrs. Phillipson and Brewer, Staples-Inn.

T. Heaver, St. James's Market, Westminster, poulterer. Attorney, Mr. Kayll, Newington-Butts.

D. Simmons, High-street, Southwark, carpenter. Attorney, Mr. Clutton, St. Thomas's-street, Southwark.

J. Bishop, jun. St. Paul, Shadwell, victualler. Attorney, Mr. Hill, King David's-lane, Shadwell.

J. Plimpton, W. Goddard, and J. Plimpton, Wood-street, Cheapside, warehousemen. Attorney, Mr. Parton, Walbrook, London.

J. Barnes, New Malton, Yorkshire, linen-draper. Attorney, Mr. Walker, Malton.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

Consols.....69 ⅛ ⅜

MEDICAL BOARD, and other articles, are postponed for want of room.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, MARCH 18.

THE Tower-guns, which like their employers, make as much noise about little things as great, announced on Thursday the capture of Guadaloupe; and for a few hours the public attention was turned from the contemplation of the wretched Ministry by the fine talkings of the Newspapers about the glory and utility of this conquest. Nobody is disposed to deny the brave conduct of our troops every where, and much praise is certainly due to the officers who commanded on this occasion, particularly to Brigadier-General WALE, for the presence of mind and

happy skill with which he turned the enemy's flank and secured the victory. The capture also, as it takes away the last possession of the French in the West Indies, takes away one of the obnoxious features of the American trade, and so far may tend to hinder the most foolish quarrel that could arise between two nations; but it goes a very little way even in this respect; and in all other respects, what is Guadaloupe with regard to it's influence in the present state of things?—Absolutely nothing. It is a Sugar Island, and we are glutted with Sugar:—it is a petty French island, and we shall give it up again at the peace, as we did before. It is thus that we waste the bravery and *scatter the force* of our troops; and thus while BONAPARTE is marking out the destinies of the Continent with his sword, we are waging war with tea-table comforts and requisites for plum-cakes.

This event is not to be compared, in point of real interest, with any one of the occurrences of the week, with Mr. YORKE's defeat at Cambridge, the arrival of a Flag of Truce, or even with the selection of the persons who are to move about the new French Empress. Mr. YORKE's oration to the Cambridge men was a mixture of the pathetic, the impudent, and the magnanimous;

"'Twas sad by fits, by starts 'twas wild;"—

but neither his pathos, impudence, nor magnanimity, had any effect on his auditors. They, who had hitherto cheerfully elected him, upon the supposition of his independence, now saw before them the hireling of a Ministry, whose bribes even the common courtiers had been ashamed to take; and they treated him accordingly. When he talked of his opposition to the destroyers of Old England, they begged to have no cant: when he repeated his belief in a conspiracy of the London Press, they laughed: and when he assured them that his new revenue did not come out of the taxes, they groaned! It is indeed a pleasant thing to hear of a conspiracy in the London Press, and if it is true, as Mr. YORKE asserts, that "every thing he said in the House was misrepresented," nothing ought to equal the contrition of the London Editors for having exhibited him so often in so despicable a light; but it was well asked by the Rev. Dr. BROWN, whether the newspapers in misrepresenting his speeches, had "misrepresented his votes also." As to Mr. YORKE's assertion, that his "ancient and *honourable*" sinecure for life is not paid out of the public taxes, I only wonder that every pocket in the assembly did not preternaturally fly open and cry out against it. Whence then does it come, if not from the taxes? Why, says Mr. YORKE, it is "made up by small fees levied upon every issue of money from the *Exchequer*." And whence, it should have been asked, does the *Exchequer* money come: if ever he hesitated in his life, he must have hesitated at such a question. "The Exchequer money! O, the *Exchequer* money: why *that* indeed comes out of the taxes, but my money does not come out of the taxes, because—you see—it comes out of the *Exchequer* money." Could there be more insolent jargon than this? Yet such is the sum total of Mr. YORKE's reasoning, and I have no doubt, had the Electors breakfasted with him, he would have persuaded them that the water for their tea did not come out of the river, because it came out of the tea-kettle. *Small* fees too! These small fees, we are told, are levied upon every issue of Exchequer money, that is to say, so much more money is taken from the people to make up a sum for the sinecure, and as this sum is first tacked to the issue only to be taken away from it, it evidently becomes another thing in coming through another channel! We are to think his sinecure nothing because it is made up of "small fees!" But if every hireling gets his two, or three, or four thousand a year from "small fees," we may be ruined in that way as well as any other. Some thousand needles would go to make a decent stiletto, quite long enough to reach one's vitals. The Lilliputians took away the liberty of Gulliver himself, and kept him chained to the ground, only by a multiplicity of bobbins. But enough of Mr. YORKE and his arguments. Every new light, in which he is seen, only shews the transparent nature of his head, the weakness of which is exactly proportioned to the vehemence of his outcries and the violence of his proceedings. After all the conspiracies he has discovered, the Jacobin conspiracy, the Wardle conspiracy, and the London Press conspiracy, I know no other that he can better investigate than the most subtle of all conspiracies, the conspiracy of a foolish man's actions against his own views and reputation. He will now get a rotten borough, and return to the House of Commons to "defend" the Constitution, upon the strength of getting there unconstitutionally. This, too, he will attribute, I dare say, to a conspiracy, and so he will every laugh that is raised against him and every blunder upon which he stumbles. He puts one in mind of a much wiser, though in some respects a much weaker man, JEAN JACQUES ROUSSEAU, who was apt to conjure up conspiracies in the same manner against his own peace and proceedings, and happening one day, after his return from this country, to stumble, as he went out of doors, over a large mastiff, exclaimed "Ah, those cursed English!"

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FLAG OF TRUCE,

A flag of truce is arrived from Calais. She was met on Thursday afternoon by the *Cherokee* gun-brig, which took out the dispatches, and the Officer charged with them, and landed them at Dover at eight o'clock at night. The Officer is said, incorrectly however, to be BONAPARTE's favourite DUROC, Marshal of his Palace and Duke of FRIULI. The dispatches arrived in town on Friday night. It was reported yesterday morning that they contain two letters, one addressed to the KING from BONAPARTE himself—the other from his Minister, CHAMPAGNY (Duke of Cadore), to the Minister of Foreign Affairs—that in the former BONAPARTE says, "the Peace of the Continent being ensured, and about to be further conso-

lidated by the happy union between himself and the Archduchess MARIA LOUISA of Austria, no motive any longer exists for continuing the war between the two nations. He therefore hopes his brother will unite with him in giving Peace to the world, and thus entitle themselves to the blessings of the present generation and of posterity." —But in the different Government Offices it is positively denied that any pacific overture had been made to our Government—that the dispatches were not addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, but to the Transport Board, and that they relate solely to exchanges of prisoners.

The *Sun* of last night, a Ministerial Paper, observes on this subject—"It seems, however, to be the general opinion that, through the medium of a communication to the Transport Board, BONAPARTE has taken the opportunity of making some proposition of a pacific nature. We are inclined to adopt this opinion."

On Monday an Austrian Messenger arrived by the packet from Heligoland. It is reported that he is not only the bearer of an official notice of the intended marriage of the Archduchess MARIA LOUISA, but of proposals for the restoration of tranquillity between Great Britain and France, under the mediation of the EMPEROR.

The Horatio frigate has captured a French frigate off Brest, laden with naval stores and 100,000 dollars, for the Isle of France. She had just quitted the harbour when the Horatio fell in with her. An action of one hour and twenty minutes is said to have ensued; when the enemy struck, and has been since brought into Portsmouth.

When the Hazard left Guadaloupe, the French frigate Nereide, of the largest class, which escaped some time ago from St. Maloes, hove in sight off Basseterre, where two of our frigates and two sloops were lying at anchor. Seeing the Island in our possession, she stood back, which our squadron perceiving, instantly slipped cables, and all four were in close pursuit of her when the Hazard came away.

In addition to the levelling of the Spanish lines on the isthmus, which connects the Rock of Gibraltar with Spain —every fort or redoubt on the Bay, by which we could in any way be annoyed, has been removed.—The Governor of Ceuta has at length permitted the British to garrison that fortress.

There is a probability of another war in India, as just before the Rattlesnake left Madras, it was reported that a body of 40,000 Mahratta cavalry had made an irruption into the Bahar country, and plundered it of immense booty, which they carried off.

The Committee of the numerous prisoners confined in the King's Bench, have received communications containing the most flattering assurances of support to their Petition to the Legislature, from some of the most distinguished Members of both Houses of Parliament; and even from some branches of the Royal Family.

Mr. GALE JONES has written a letter to Sir F. BURDETT, in which he thanks him for his "unanswerable and unanswered defence," and says he will not degrade himself "by petitioning for his liberty, which he boldly claims by birth-right."

Mr. Antijacobin — Sinecure — Alarmist — Conspiracy YORKE complains of the treatment his good friends, Messrs. TIERNEY and WINDHAM, receive from the Reporters, who, he says, have entered into a conspiracy to avoid reporting their speeches!—The fact is, Mr. TIERNEY particularly requested that these Gentlemen would say "nothing about him;" and as for Mr. WINDHAM, every body is convinced, from his own mouth, that he detests and abhors the modern practice of giving the debates. The Reporters, therefore, have merely complied with the earnest wishes of those patriotic Members, and it is rather strange that they should now be abused for that very compliance. In truth, the Public manage very well without the report of such speeches; they are well satisfied; nor will even the loss of Mr. Teller YORKE's oratory afflict them beyond endurance.—Really, Gentlemen, your complaints are quite pathetic; they touch one nearly; but have patience, it's a great virtue, and becomes a British Senator mightily.

The petition to his MAJESTY for a third Theatre having been referred to the Privy Council, the matter was discussed before them on Friday, when it was of course warmly opposed by petitions from Messrs. SHERIDAN, GREVILLE, HARRIS, and KEMBLE. Mr. ELLISTON too had his petition against it!—Mr. WARREN and Mr. CURWOOD were heard in support of the petition for a third Theatre, and adduced unanswerable arguments in its favour. The further hearing was postponed. The monopolists are expected to be defeated.

The unfortunate HOFER, the gallant Tyrolean Chief, has been condemned to death, by a Military Commission at Mantua, and the sentence executed.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

No. 68.

LYCEUM.

The *new* Opera called *The Maniac* or the *Swiss Banditti*, which was produced on Tuesday, is like all other new Operas, as old as possible in sentiment, humour, and language. It is the double story of an insane female and a most desperate youth in whiskers, the former of whom runs away from her seducer and goes mad on hearing of her father's supposed death, while the latter, almost as mad for the love of her sister, whose affections are fixed on his brother, becomes a sanguinary captain of banditti, and concluding his brother to be killed by a hired assassin, contrives to get the lady not only into his cave, but as it would seem to the innocent, unthinking spectator, into his power. Here, however, as was to be *expected*, comes the surprise. A company of soldiers is sent to exterminate the robbers, and who should be the officer on duty but the very brother supposed to be killed. He fights, and of course rescues the lady: and in the meantime the seducer of the other lady goes of course to find her out in her haunts. Here he is assaulted with a huge stick by a faithful servant who had followed the lady in her distresses, and who puts the lover to flight with the quickness and vigour of an *Orlando Furioso*, though this same follower himself, on a different occasion, is defeated with as little ceremony. However, every body succeeds as he ought, dramatically speaking: the mad lady is of course restored to her senses as well as to her father, and "they all live very happy after." Children's stories and

modern dramas have all the same kind of end, and terminate like foils, not only with no point, but with absolute flatness.

The sentiment, the humour, and the dialogue, did ample justice to the adventures. The mad lady was particularly happy in her flights "from lively to severe," and at one time refused "a piece of cold lamb" because "man was an universal ravager." Mr. ARNOLD, in attempting these fine flights, does not seem to have been aware that the art of a poet is never so much exercised as in the wanderings and apparent artlessness of insanity. Of the humour, poor MATHEWS's character, *John Dory*, is a sufficient specimen: he is a fisherman continually talking, *a la Dibdin*, of *odd fishes* and *soles*, of *nibbling* at beauty, and *hooking* a wife. The language exhibits such metaphors as *shining* through *bluntness*, *silencing* the *edge* of curiosity, &c. and the songs, for their antiquity, would be passed over by an errand-boy perusing an old wail: there is *Ella the fairest of the fair*, and *Edmund the bravest of the brave*, who are obliged to part for a short time, and the author, to shew that he does not imitate the story of Young Henry, puts the case of separation in this *new* way, marking the emphasis in Italics, lest it should escape the common reader:

Why from the maid did Edmund go?
And why did Ella drop the tear?
'Twas that *he* flew to meet the foe!
'Twas that *her* heart was chill'd with fear,

Very original, energetic, and surprising.

Specimen of the original reasoning:—

Push about the bottle, boys, &c. &c.
——Constant joys—social glass.—
For when care disturbs the soul,
Why should mortal man repine?
Since fill but deep enough the bowl,
And all our cares are drown'd in wine,

Specimen of the Shakspearian fancy:—

Love is the essence of a part
Where vital feeling lies,
Born in the heart, lives in the heart,
And in the heart it dies.

The acting was much too good for the production; I say too good, for though I would not advise a performer to act in opposition to his feelings, yet the excellent performance of such men as DOWTON gives a false colour and success to these wretched dramas. Mr. DOWTON did indeed supply some admirable touches of nature to the meagre outline of his original. The breathless impotence of joy with which he suddenly meets an old friend, was worked up with an agitation of feeling, face, and manner, the truth of which can never have been excelled in the best times of the stage.

The music by Mr. BISHOP is liable to the very same objection, for it is lamentable to see so much scientific and expressive composition lavished on the most paltry songs. The chorus beginning "The Tyger," the ballad of Poor mad Margery, and the rondo "Go my Love," may rank with the most pleasing compositions of the modern English School, the first for expressive solemnity, the second for simple pathos, and the third for elegance and a spirited resolution. Mrs. MOUNTAIN, with her delicate taste, did full justice to the Maniac's singing, but it is a mere joke to see her playing the *Octavian* among mountains. Mrs. BISHOP is an elegant singer, but she does not advance in her art as might have been expected: she wants fullness and variety. As to Mr. PHILLIPS, he is always playful and pleasing, and occasionally exhibits much feeling; but he should avoid Mr. BRAHAM's style, as he would walking on the slack rope: it is sure to bring him to the ground, and to lame him too in the descent.

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FINE ARTS.

BRITISH INSTITUTION.

32. *The Assassination of Dentatus.*—B. R. HAYDON.—This was one of the best pictures last year in the Royal Academy Exhibition, and was described as such in the *Examiner*. The public are therefore so well acquainted with its excellence, that it is unnecessary to repeat the description. The two prime beauties of an Historic or Poetic Work of Art are, 1st, such a faithful delineation of the actions or emotions of the agents as to convey to the spectator the meaning of the author; and 2ndly, a correct anatomical and often ideal delineation of their forms. The first requisite has been eminently attained by the Painter. At the first glance we recognize the intrepid veteran who wages successful combat against a crowd of assassins, and see his approaching destiny in the fragments of rocks some dastard traitors are tumbling on his devoted head. He wields the sword of unerring vengeance; his eyes flash indignant virtue; and pressing fearlessly onward, he sends before him dismay, flight and death. A dignified aspect is, however, wanting to render him a still nobler contrast to the villains he is contending against. For the second requisite of anatomical accuracy, unqualified praise must be conferred on the industry and scientific attainment of the Painter.

59. *The Woman with the issue of Blood.* J. S. AGAR.—This piece is pleasing to the tasteful eye in it's forms and expressions, though insipid in its colouring and general effect. This insipidity arises from a degree of deadness and a deficiency of balance in the colours. The blue drapery on the Saviour appears a spot from the want of a little more of the same depth of colour in some other part to mitigate it's force. But blue should be cautiously introduced into the prominent parts, because it's depth and coldness are apt to interfere with the requisite mellowness, warmth, and harmony of a well coloured picture. Except the diseased woman, the flesh throughout is much too pale. Vigorous maturity, and the buxom health of the juvenile age, are characterized by roseate hues, and lively though delicate carnations. In contrast with these, the sickly hue of the woman would have had a more interesting because a more pallid effect. But however deficient the colouring is, the higher requisites, the situations and emotions of the various figures, are suitable. Our hearts sympathize with the graceful, afflicted, contrite, and trembling female prostrate before the benignant Saviour. The Ruler who had been previously conducting him to the house of his dying daughter is naturally and impatiently urging him onward, while some followers are bending forward with listening curiosity to learn what is transpiring between the Saviour and woman.

(*To be continued.*)

The pressure of temporary matter prevents the statement of Mr. FUSELI's Lectures on Design and Colouring, in both of which he exhibited as great a portion of knowledge as has ever been evinced by any individual critic on those subjects. Forcibly however as his sentiments were

carried home to the minds of his highly gratified auditory, by striking imagery and energetic diction, he occasionally degenerated into some of his former faults of style; faults which are characterised as essentially deviating from that simplicity which constitutes the prime excellence of didactic discourse. His saying of a certain picture that had been too highly eulogised, that it was not only unworthy of *presiding* but of *residing* in the distinguished situation in which it was placed, is beneath even a conversational pun, but much more so the becoming gravity of a public lecturer.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

About half past one o'clock on Thursday morning, as the watchman in Duke-street, Aldgate, passed the house of Mr. Noyes, leather-seller, he observed flames issuing from the window of the first floor; he instantly gave the alarm by reiterated knocks, and at length Mrs. Noyes, who slept in the third story with her servant, a girl about nineteen, and her granddaughter, an infant but five years old (Mr. Noyes being out of town) opened the window, and then rushed to the room-door, leaving the window unclosed; but the moment she opened the door, the draft occasioned by the window instantly drew a column of the devouring element up the stairs communicating with her room. She rushed through the flames up another flight of stairs, calling on the servant to follow her, and made her way into the workshop at the top of the house. Here she stood for some time in a state of distraction, anxiously waiting the approach of her grand-daughter and the servant. Vain, however, were her hopes, for so tremendous was the volume of flame, that the retreat of the servant and the infant was cut off. They approached the window to call for aid, but alas! ere the expiration of two minutes, the floor sunk, and they were both plunged into the heart of the fire. Mrs. Noyes having heard their last agonizing shriek, and concluding [illegible] was over, [illegible] of her own safety, and discovered [illegible] on the roof, almost in a state of nudity; from whence she made her way to the garret of her neighbour (Mr. Breech, the haberdasher), and here fortunately two shopmen slept, who were in a deep sleep, from which they were aroused by the crash of a pane of glass, which Mrs. Noyes broke, in order to arouse them; and having been informed of their perilous situation, they received Mrs. N. and carried her down stairs, alarming the family, who had just time to escape before the flames made their way through the party wall. In a few minutes the two houses were as one awful conflagration, the horrors of which were considerably increased by the shrieks of the affrighted females who rushed from the adjoining houses, and with scarcely any cloathing, in a cold and inclement night, sought refuge in the houses of the neighbouring inhabitants. Nearly an hour elapsed before a sufficient supply of water was procured. An abundant supply, however, was then obtained, and the flames were extinguished before four o'clock, without having extended beyond the two houses of Mr. Noyes and Mr. Breech, the shells of which only remain. A small quantity of the stock in the shops of each house was preserved.—The only way in which the fire is accounted for, is, that some women were washing in the kitchen of Mr. Noyes's house, which is on the first floor, the preceding evening, and having been using the copper, it is supposed some sparks remained in the furnace after the family had retired to bed, which communicated with the adjacent wood work, and from thence spread with resistless fury over the whole house.

Scarcely had the horrors of this scene begun to subside, when the public attention was called by an alarm of fire in another direction, and having followed the dreadful beacon to Holles-street, Clare-market, a scene, if possible, more wretched than the former, was presented. At three o'clock the watchmen in Clare-market smelt a strong smell of burning wood, and on endeavouring to discover the cause, they were led to Holles-street, where they observed flames bursting from the shop of a Mr. Coe, a tallow-chandler. A few passengers coming to their assistance, they burst open the hall or passage door, and rushed up stairs to the first floor, where lodged an elderly lady and her daughter; the latter had long been confined to her bed in a decline. The unfortunate girl was carried down stairs by two watchmen, attended by her distracted parent; but the lamp of life being almost exhausted, this shock was too much for her frame to bear, and in a few minutes she expired in the arms of her humane deliverers. It is impossible to describe the agony of the unfortunate mother on this occasion. The fire, which continued its rapid course, gained additional strength from the combustible matter with which the shop was filled. The termination of the dreadful catastrophies of the night had not yet arrived, and the spectators had to witness the harrowing sight of an aged man and woman who lived in the garret, their retreat cut off, by the stairs below being consumed, shrieking from the windows of their room, and calling for that aid it was impossible to afford them. Too soon was their torturing anxiety ended, and too soon had the spectators to witness the death of two other victims to the uncontroulable fury of the element. The floor gave way, and with it the wretched pair! the remains of one of whom was conveyed to some contiguous house. The flames from Mr. Coe's house soon communicated with that of Mr. Smith, a hair-dresser, next door, in the upper room of which lay, on a bed of sickness, a poor man, just recovering from a long and lingering fever. He also was carried into the street, and from thence to an hospital, where he expired in the course of the morning, in consequence of the alarm and fatigue he underwent. Thus adding one more to the catalogue of human beings who fell a prey to the flames in one eventful night.—The engines arrived in about half an hour after the fire broke out, and by their continued exertions, confined its fury within the limits of the two houses; that of Mr. Coe and Mr. Smith; that of the former was completely burnt down, and the latter was so much injured as to prevent the possibility of its repair. A very small portion of the property was saved. —The mother of the unfortunate girl who perished in the watchman's arms, [illegible] additional misery of losing in the flames the savings of a long life, six hundred pounds, which she had in Bank notes in the room for the purpose of purchasing a house in the vicinity; but which in her alarm she forgot to secure.

MARRIAGES.

On the 6th ult. R. Beeby, Esq. of St. Mary Hill, merchant, to Miss Harriet Baker, late of Newport, Isle of Wight.

Monday, at St. Mary-le-bone Church, T. Duffield, Esq. Fellow of Merton College, Oxford, to Emily Frances, only child of G. Elwes, Esq. of High-street, St. Mary-le-bone.

Mr. M'Gibbon, of the Nottingham Theatre, to Miss Woodfall, of the Wolverhampton Theatre, daughter of the late W. Woodfall, Esq. the celebrated Parliamentary Reporter.

Last week, at New Radnor, John Jenkins to Jane Davies. This is the third time that the bride has gone through the ceremony, although but twenty-four years of age. Two years ago she buried her first husband; six months back she married her second; and on a fortnight's acquaintance she married her third.

DEATHS.

Sunday se'nnight, Mr. J. Rouse, aged 75, an opulent farmer of St. Columb, under whose bed were found eighteen hundred guineas, besides bills, &c.

On Sunday last, at her father's house in Wimpole-street, Sophia, the eldest daughter of Gen. Morse.

On 9th inst. at Wasperton, Warwickshire, J. Dormer, Esq. eldest son of the Hon. J. Dormer.

On the 11th inst. the Hon. Margaret Percy, daughter of Lord Louvaine.

A few days ago, G. Humphries, Esq. a Member of the Royal Academy, at an advanced age.

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